

**United States** Department of Agriculture

Farm Service Agency **Natural Resources** Conservation

Rural Development

May 27, 2008

TO:

All Tennessee FSA, NRCS and RD Employees

SUBJECT:

Civil Rights Policy Statement

USDA is committed to ensuring the civil rights of all customers and employees. Every customer and every employee must be treated fairly and equitably, with dignity and respect, without regard to race, color, sex, age, martial status, religion, national origin or disability.

USDA has made great strides over the past years in the areas of equal employment and program outreach, but we can do better. Civil rights is a responsibility that all must share, and each employee is expected to fully adhere to USDA policy of eliminating discrimination from our employment practices and from our program delivery system.

Only by working together and by living up to the letter and the spirit of this policy, can USDA be an even greater organization than it already is.

State Executive Director, FSA

State Conservationist, NRCS

State Director, RD